

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 063076

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: 11652: GDS

TAGS: PN, PBOR, PEPR

SUBJECT: PANAMA CANAL TREATIES: UNDERSTANDINGS ON
CEMETERIES

FOR DELIVERY OPENING OF BUSINESS MARCH 11

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM HANSELL

SENATOR CRANSTON, DESPITE ALL OUR COMMENTS AND WARNINGS
CONCERNING NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF PROPOSED ACTION IN PANAMA,
INTENDS TO INTRODUCE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDINGS TO PREEMPT
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS (TEXTS NOT AVAILABLE) BY SENATOR
THURMOND.

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QUOTE: UNDERSTANDING. BEFORE THE PERIOD FOLLOWING:
SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:
THAT UPON RATIFICATION OF THIS TREATY THE TWO PARTIES
SHALL ENTER INTO GOOD FAITH NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE
EXECUTION OF AN EXECUTIVE AGREEMENT IN WHICH THE AMERICAN
BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION WOULD THEREAFTER ADMINISTER
THAT PART OF THE CEMETERY AT COROZAL, CANAL ZONE, WHICH

ENCOMPASSES THE REMAINS OF US CITIZENS IN ACCORDANCE WITH
PRACTICES, IMMUNITIES, RIGHTS AND BENEFITS ASSOCIATED WITH

THE ADMINISTRATION OF OVERSEAS CEMETERIES BY THE ABMC.
END QUOTE

BEGIN QUOTE: UNDERSTANDING. BEFORE THE PERIOD

FOLLOWING:

SUBJECT TO THE UNDERSTANDING THAT, AS PROVIDED FOR IN
ARTICLE VII, SECTION 3 OF THE PANAMA CANAL TREATY, THE
FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES WOULD, UPON RATIFICATION OF
SUCH TREATY, BE FLOWN OVER THAT PART OF THE CEMETERY AT
CORIZAL, CANAL ZONE, WHICH ENCOMPASSES THE REMAINS OF
US CITIZENS. END QUOTE.

SENATOR CRANSTON BELIEVES THAT BOTH, REPEAT BOTH, UNDER-
STANDINGS ARE NECESSARY TO PREEMPT THURMOND AMENDMENTS
AND INTENDS TO SOLICIT SELECTED SENATORS MONDAY MORNING
TO SUPPORT THIS EFFORT.

REQUEST YOUR IMMEDIATE COMMENT INCLUDING FEASIBILITY OF
GOING TO PANAMANIANS TO REQUEST THEIR PRIOR CONCURRENCE.
WE JUDGE THAT TWO SUBJECTS OF PERPETUAL CEMETERY CARE
AND THE FLYING OF US FLAG OVER AMERICAN SECTOR OF COROZAL
MUST BE ADDRESSED. HOWEVER, WE MAY HAVE SOME INFLUENCE
ON PRECISE LANGUAGE. YOU WILL NOTE THAT CRANSTON'S
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UNDERSTANDING ON FLAGS TAKES ADVANTAGE OF EXISTING TREATY
LANGUAGE (ART VII, SEC 3) WHICH PROVIDES FOR DISPLAY
"AT OTHER PLACES . . . AS AGREED BY BOTH PARTIES". VANCE

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